

Atty Dkt No.: 124571-1000
Application No: 09/920,231

PATENT

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

The following list of claims replaces all prior claims previously submitted.

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An animal feeder consisting of comprising:

a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end, wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door opening;

an upwardly extending lip placed around at least a portion of the perimeter of the access door opening;

a lid having open and closed positions to open and close off the access door opening, respectively;

an edge member joined to the edge of the lid to extend around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in its closed position, the edge member having a gap formed therein so that the lip extends above the gap when the lid is in its closed position, wherein further the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position;

a protective cage proximate to the feeding end of the hopper;

at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed hopper; and

a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.

Claims 2 -5. (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (Currently amended) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel, ~~and wherein the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position.~~

Claim 7. (Original) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.

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Claim 8. (Original) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.

Claims 9 - 21. (Cancelled)

Claim 22. (Currently amended) An animal feeder consisting of comprising:
a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end,

wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door opening, an upwardly extending lip placed around a portion of the access door opening, and a lid for opening and closing off the access door opening, wherein the lid incorporates an edge member having a gap therein, wherein the edge member extends around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in the closed position, thereby permitting the lid to be breathable and to form a protective barrier for the access door opening and wherein the feeding end has at least one feeding tube;[[,]]

a platform attached to the feed hopper;[[,]]

a ladder attached to the platform;[[,]]

at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed hopper;[[,]] and

a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the protective cage encloses the feeding end.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 1, wherein the feeder is welded together to provide a single, unitary structure.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the feeder is welded together to provide a single, unitary structure.

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Claim 26. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel.

Claim 27. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein the skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.

Claim 28. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 22, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.

Claim 29. (Cancelled)

Claim 30. (Currently amended) An animal feeder consisting of comprising:
a feed hopper having a filling end and a feeding end, wherein the filling end has a cover having an access door;
an upwardly extending lip placed around at least a portion of the perimeter of the access door opening;
a lid having open and closed positions to open and close off the access door opening, respectively;
an edge member joined to the edge of the lid to extend around at least a portion of the lip when the lid is in its closed position, the edge member having a gap formed therein so that the lip extends above the gap when the lid is in its closed position, wherein the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position;
at least three legs, the proximate ends of the legs permanently attached to the feed hopper, and
a skid assembly permanently attached to the distal ends of the legs.

Claim 31. (Cancelled)

Claim 32. (Cancelled)

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Claim 33. (Cancelled)

Claim 34. (Currently amended) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein the feed hopper is fabricated from plate steel, ~~and wherein the edge member is configured to support the lid above the lip in spaced apart relationship when the lid is in its closed position.~~

Claim 35. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein skid assembly is releasable attached to a vehicle.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) The animal feeder of claim 30, wherein feed is distributed by gravity from the feeding end of the feed hopper.